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The book has suggestions of greatest value for parent and teacher and will be read with interest and profit even by many who do not accept its Freudian hypothesis.

ERNEST R. GROVES

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Dispensaries, Their Management and Development. By MICHAEL M. DAVIS, JR., and ANDREW R. WARNER. New York: Macmillan Co., 1918. Pp. ix+438. \$2.25.

The object of this book is described as threefold. First, "to depict briefly the history and present extent of dispensaries in the United States." Second, "to present the practical details which all people, including superintendents, physicians, nurses, and social workers who are working in dispensaries, particularly need to know." Third, "to present the dispensary as a form of organization not only for rendering efficient medical service to the people, but to benefit the medical profession by stabilizing the economic position of the average physician."

In other words, the central problems of the book are: What service can be best rendered by dispensaries, and how can they perform that function efficiently? Happily the authors combine with their answers to these questions the data on which their conclusions rest and a clear indication of their method of procedure.

From their study of the dispensaries themselves, Dr. Davis and Dr. Warner found that some are primarily charitable agencies, caring for the "indigent sick"; others have as their chief purpose the teaching of medical students; a third group is concerned with the prevention of disease; and finally there are commercial dispensaries like that of the Mayo brothers.

From their study of dispensary patients, they found that while many are below the poverty level, a still greater proportion is not dependent except for the cost of medical care.

An examination of medical service at large shows a shortage of general practitioners, inadequate professional equipment for the majority of physicians, and a lack of specialists outside the cities.

On the basis of these facts, the authors recommend for cities: health centers, doing primarily preventive work, district dispensaries for ambulatory patients who cannot secure medical care elsewhere, and teaching dispensaries for the training of medical students. For rural districts they believe in the traveling dispensary. For small towns they

urge local dispensaries, to be visited at regular intervals by specialists whom no single town could support.

The financial aspect of the dispensary movement is stated in the following words: "The central principle by which the cost of better medical service for the whole community can be financed is the distribution of the burden of illness so that this does not fall upon an individual or family at the very moment when their ability to bear it is less than usual. Such a distribution of the burden is not inconsistent with the maintenance of individual responsibility for self-support, or for the payment, by the individual, of at least his fair, average share of the total community's burden. The methods by which the distribution can be achieved are either by mutual insurance or by public taxation. Both methods are likely to be followed, each to cover a portion of the field."

Altogether this is a very useful book, not merely for the specific information which it contains, but also because it is a sample of genuinely scientific work.

STUART A. QUEEN

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Junk Dealing and Juvenile Delinquency. An Investigation Made for the Juvenile Protective Association of Chicago. By HARRY H. GRIGG and GEORGE E. HAYNES. Text by ALBERT E. WEBSTER. Chicago, 1919. Pp. 60. \$0.25.

This investigation consisted of (1) local reports from police and school authorities, boys' clubs, and other agencies, (2) reports from other cities, (3) a detailed study of one hundred delinquent boys with specific reference to their experience in "junking," (4) the "trailing" of junk dealers to discover their transactions with children. The conclusions of the investigators are summarized in the following words:

The retail junk business in Chicago is a most serious factor in juvenile delinquency. Dealers repeatedly violate both state laws and city ordinances in their relations with children. Junk men not only readily accept the fruits of the boys' illegal acts, but frequently urge them to steal.

On the basis of concrete data presented, a number of recommendations are offered. They include: (1) vigorous prosecution of offending junk dealers, (2) the elimination of "written consent" of parents for children to sell junk, (3) collection of junk along railroad rights of way by the companies themselves, (4) "municipalization" of the junk business, just as many cities have taken over the collection and disposal of garbage.

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